comprised the main plant and township while the other comprised ash dyke area. The villagers affected by the setting up of the main plant and township were resettled and rehabilitated.

The ash dyke area was predominantly forest land and there was delay in getting the forest clearance. Therefore, alternate area in Mithini village was acquired by NTPC. Almost all the villagers have been resettled. Construction work in the ash dyke area is in progress.

Purchase of power from Pakistan

566. SHRI K.R. MALKANI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that he had told the Press in Banglaorc on 18th May, 1997, as reported in the Times of India' dated 19th May 1997 that India would purchase from Pakistan 3000 MW of surplus power being generated by it from the Hydcl resources of the Indus River basin;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Pakistan Prime Minister had said that at present Pakistan does not have any surplus power as reported in the 'Hindu' dated the 22nd May, 1997;

(c) what power was he talking about; and

(d) whether it is likely to materialise in this' century?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. , ALAGH): (a) to (d) A World Bank supported proposal for the sale of power from Pakistan to India was received from Indian Embassy, Washington. The proposal is under preliminary stage of assessment and scrutiny. Consequent to the commissioning of the last unit of 1300 MW World Bank funded, Hub River Power Project near Karachi, Pakistan is likley to have a 1000 MW surplus during the monsoon season. The surplus is largely between July to September, the expectation is that even during the lean season substantial power will be available in view of capacity addition from on going projects. To facilitate the transfer of bulk power to Punjab. Rajasthan and Gujarat, it will be necessary in due course to establish a 400 KV transmission links. In the short run a 66 KV Double Circuit line between Lahore and Amritsar needs to be commissioned. This would facilitate transmission of 200 MW power. So far, no feasibility has been conducted regarding the modalities for effecting the transfer of power and the investments required to be undertaken.

(a) In order to proceed further it is proposed to organise visit of expert teams from both the countries to identify the various tcchanical, commercial and administrative arrangements necessary for transmission of power. Thereafter, the terms of reference for a feasibility study will be finalised.

Captive Power Plants

567. SHRI VEDPRAKASH P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the News item captioned 'Captive Power Unit Plan Okayed' wheih appeared in 'The Pioneer' dated the 7th April, 1997;

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto;

(c) whether it is mandatory to obtain Government's sanctioned for captive power plants;

(d) if so, what are the authorities and the criteria for giving or refusing sanctions;

(e) how many captive power units are operating in the country as on date with list thereof; and

(f) what is there performance record vis-a-vis non-availability of power supply from the SEB mains'?